

Journal Notes

of Vernon Bailey
1834 Kalorama Road
Washington D.C.,
1937

Diurnal Mammals

at Washington Zoo
Aug. 8+9, 1937

● Most carnivores in part
Lions in particular

● Most squirrels
Marmota

Cynomys
Citellus

● Sigmodon, mainly
Sciurus except white
squirrel from

● ~~Mesodiplos~~, apparently

NOV. 3, 1937

- Left Washington for
Fallon, Nevada, at
5 PM. T & O, C & NW n.
- W & SP around by
Oakland, Los Angeles,
New Orleans, Louisville
and Cincinnati
to point of starting.
- Testing Verbaal Traps
for demonstration purposes
for Nat. Humane Assn.
- Warmest pleasant
No hard frosts as yet.
- Autumn colors not all
gone.

To Chicago Nov. 4, 1937

- Arrived Chicago 8:20 AM
- Left 10:38 PM on
C. & N.W.N. Pacific Limited -
- Heavy frost in morning -
Clear and warmed snappy
- Grass green but tree
bark, glass brown and
yellow and gray.
- Good crops.
- Fat cattle, hogs & sheep.

NOV. 4, 1937
Julesburg, Colo.

The sun rose at Julesburg right out of the short yellow grass into a blue sky, warmed still and pleasant. No frost. A good growth of grass and weeds and a prosperous look to the country. Very little stock all shipped out to be fed. No timber except cottonwoods along Pole Creek until we reach Pine Bluffs where pines & junipers cover the riverbanks of a limestone plateau. Some crops on irrigated bottoms, corn, sugar beets, alfalfa, cotton & small crops.

No snow over the ~~Inter~~
Mts, but plenty of it on
the Colorado Mts. To
the west and on the
Elk Horns beyond
Sagebrush all dry.
Some ice on roads -
Dark at Rock Springs

Hazen, Nevada Nov. 4, 1937

Daylight at Pallasaid
Reached Hazen at 11:20
Out to Fallon.

Country dry & unchanged
in the 48 years since I saw
it first.

Warm and still, not
much frost, but trees bare
and vegetation brown & yellow.
A trace of gray green still
on the sagebrush.
Just a trace of snow on
north slopes of highest
peaks.

Reached Fallon about noon
and went out on a small
line of traps. Found nothing
in them, set 2 skunk
traps and one for porcupine.

Fallon Sunday, Nov. 7, 37

Went with Vernon Mills on his big trap line of about 200 coyote traps on a circle of about 100 miles. ~~Didn't~~ catch anything. About 80 coyotes have been caught on the line in a month and they are getting scarce. Will try moving onto new ground soon.

A few badgers, two desert foxes and one bobcat have been caught. A few eagles, hawks, owls and magpies have been caught.

Clear & warm, a little frost

Went clear around Carson
lake where we saw about
9000 snow geese, a few
thousand ducks and 58
Canada geese. Hunters
were shooting at them
and scared them up out
on the big mud flats of
Carson Lake.

There said to be more
geese and ducks in the
sink of the Carson.

Went out to Soda Lake
in PM and saw hundreds
of ~~ducks~~, coots and grebes
on this deep clear lake
in an old cinder cone
of a crater.

Fallon Mo. Nov. 8, 1937

Went to traps west of town where Porcupines and rattlesnakes live. Could not find either. Caught one nice big male Coyote, fat and weighed 37 lbs. in no. 3 steel trap. Took movies and still pictures.

Caught a cottontail in Verba's trap and a jack rabbit in no. 3 steel, badly mangled.

Vernon killed a bear and a mallard and Margaret killed 2 mallards on the wing at 2 shots each.

Caught 2 coyotes in steel traps that escaped. One pulled a trap jaw out and one pulled off one toe.

In P.M. explored trap
ground beyond Hazen
but found only a few coyote
and kit fox tracks, mostly
old.

Ray Alcorn went
with us. and Mrs Alcorn
and baby Albert.

Margaret Mills and
her baby, Dickey, went
also.

Saw many hawks and
a lot of ducks.

A hot day, clear and dry
Glorious sunset

Fallor - Nov, 9, 1937

Caught 2 coyotes
on the trap line
and got some good
movies and stills

Vernon and Margaret
killed 2 ducks each

Fallon, Nevada, Nov. 10 + 11

Ernest Walker and his wife came along the evening of the 10th and went with us on the trap line.

Caught two coyotes in steel traps on a 100 mile row of 200 traps

Saw a few coyote tracks but they are getting scarce.

Got supplies for a camp trip into the mountains above Reno to trap for bears.

Took up the few skunk traps I had set

Rained in morning

then cleared off but

snow showed on the Mts. next day.

Nov. 12 Fallon

Took up skunk traps
packed up for trip to Reno
and reached there by noon
Went about 10 miles beyond
to near Calif. line, left
car and climbed 1000
feet up into timber where
bear tracks had been seen
earlier but found none.
Came back to car after dark
in snow and cold wind,
ground and wood all
wet, couldn't build a
fire and were all
frozen. Vernon Mills, Ray Alcorn
and I, so wet and cold
and tired and hungry we
ran back to Reno and got
a good hot supper and then
went over and staid with

Phil and Faith Cowgill
Got dry & warm and had
luxurious beds and a
good visit with my
Nephew and niece and
their two lovely daughters
Faith and Florence.

Reno, Nev., Nov. 12, 1937

Snowed more in the night but cleared off before morning and was cold and pleasant.

Ran up the highway again, left car near Calif. line and climbed high (to about 8000 feet) on the north slope of Mt.

Ross, well up in Canadian zone, stop and rough and snow getting deeper till about a foot deep, to where bear tracks had been numerous in aspen and willow meadows.

among the spruce and firs, yellow pine, Jeffrey pine, Abies concolor

and uniquely well abun-
dant and very large.

Plenty of deer and coyote
footprint and parcours
tracks seen but no
hall of bears.

Evidently they have
hibernated in the many
caves and caverns
or under the huge
boulders of the canyons
and gulches and cliffs
and ridges of this
rugged slope.

Went it up and
came back to the
car and back to
Fallon in evening
after two hard days
work and a climb from
Lower Sonoran to Canadian zone

Fallon,

Nov. 13, 1917

Went to the steel traps
that had been left out
2 nights and got 2 Coyotes
Got good movie and
still pictures of coyotes
in traps and one Jack
rabbit in steel trap.
Spent Honey for
scrubs but did not set
traps

Coyotes trapped at Fallon

- Vernon Mills and Ray Alcorn have caught 84 coyotes in the past 6 weeks and sold the skins at about \$5 apiece.
- They have used about 200 traps and given most of their time to trapping.
- About 5 or 6 other men in the Carson Valley have given their time to trapping coyotes.
- Vernon thinks they have averaged 50 coyotes each, a dozen boys on ~~sundays~~ have caught a few, probably 5 each.
- A probable total of 400 coyotes in one valley.

about 30 miles wide
and 40 long.

That means \$2000
in the pockets of a dozen
families, mostly ranchers
Mills and Alcorn are
young fellows about 25
years old, each with
a wife and baby,
getting a start as
ranchers or on
local jobs for part
time. Their fur
harvest keeps them
in comfortable condition
for the winter.

There will be plenty
of coyotes left for
next year but not
enough to do much
damage to stock

Fallen is in a farming
stock raising and
alfalfa valley. Much
poultry, many sheep and
cattle are raised and
it is a great small game
valley so the control of
predators is important
but the fur pays a
good profit on the
best kind of control.

Fallon,

Nov. 14

Set traps for skunks
at bee hives and baited
them with honey.

Fallon

Nov. 15, 1937

Caught one large ♂
~~skunk~~ and put him
in a gunny sack
without any trouble
but when we went to
put him in the back
end of the car he got
excited & spoiled the
sack.

Killed with monkey
gas and moving
pictures taken of all
the process

Fallers

NOV. 14, 37

Caught nothing,
Set more coyote traps
and a bobcat trap
Raining in evening

Fallon, Nov. 16,

Set Coyote traps near
home on foot - and
on bobcat trap -

Fallon, Nev. Nov. 17, 1937

Caught only a Jackrabbit
in Verbaile traps but found
skunk tracks at bee hives
and baited them again
with bread and honey.

Vernon caught two
Coyotes in his main trap
line. One twisted off its
foot and got away
but he shot another
so got two skins.

Caught 2 jack rabbits
in his steel traps and
I got pictures of them as
well as of one in my
Verbaile trap.

Got material for mounting
Coyote, skunk & jack rabbit
in Verbaile traps.

A warm day,
No frost, Dandelions
in blossom.
Cottonwood still yellow

Nevada Nov. 18, 1917

Caught nothing, set
a few more traps.

Vernon Mills caught
2 more coyotes, making
94 in all this year.

Took 10 skins to
Reno and got \$50 for
them.

Baited up skunk traps
with great care,
bread and honey and
bread and butter all
fresh at dark.

A frosty morning but
warm day.

Gave talk at Lions
Club in evening.

Photographed 10 coyote
skins for Vernon Mills.

Fallon, Nov. 19, 1937

Caught only a big
black and tan dog.
Foot not hurt but
slightly swollen.
Hobbled home
without saying Thank you.

Not a skunk trail
anywhere. Saw one
weasel track.

Skinned skunk caught
5 days ago. Large
old male, very fat,
weighed 7 lbs.

Going to mount him
in trap for ~~the~~ Human Society.

A warm day.

Trapped up skunk traps
again.

Photographed Thomson's camera for
Ray Allen.

Fallon, Nev. Nov. 1937

Taxidea taxus nevadensis

Badgers are scarce but Vernon Mills says he has released about 25 from his coyote traps this year. Had to kill a few with broken legs.

The fur is still short and they are worth only a dollar or two now.

Later in winter a prime "silver badger" will bring 16 to 30 dollars.

Most of these seem to be brown with short stripes but considerably paler than the Californian badgers.

They are greatly needed and should be protected to eat *Citellus mollis* which is abundant and destructive.

Nov. 28 Fallon

Yesterday a badger pulled out of a no. 2 Verbal trap and today one got out of a no. 3. It was caught by a hind foot but evidently not above the heel.

A bigger, stiffer trap may be necessary to hold them.

Fallon, Nevada, Dec. 3, 37

Drove up to Reno with
Laura Mills after school
and staid all night at Faith's.
Mild and pleasant -
Ice on ponds in morning.

Reno to Berkeley, Dec. 4.

Laura and Faith drove over with me to the annual meeting of the Sierra Club at San Francisco.

Left Reno at 6 AM and arrived at Berkeley 11:30.

Had lunch with Joe and Talley and drove across the new bridge in evening to the San Francisco Waldorf Hotel for a 7 o'clock banquet, speeches, moving pictures and dance.

About 300 of the 3020 members of the Sierra Club present, many old friends present, Dr. Hildbrand presided. The speakers were Lawrence Merriam, new Superintendent of Yosemite,

Col. White, Supp. of
Sequoia and Death Valley,
Mr. Schell of the Forest Service
and myself.

Col. White urged me
to come to Sequoia and
to Death Valley. Offered
to come and get me for
either trip, is much
interested in human types

Berkeley to Fallon, Dec. 5

Left Berkeley at 11 AM
and reach Fallon at 8 PM,
with an hours stop at
Reno.

Warm and beautiful at
Berkeley, flowers and berries
abundant, fields green,
Escholtzia in blossom
along road

Cold and freezing on
Dorner Summit in evening.
Snow 2 feet deep but road
well scraped, dry and smooth.
Hundreds of skiers out
on the snow.

Clear and frosty at Reno
and Fallon. no snow
at Dorner Lake.

Fallon

~~Dec~~ 4, 1937

Reset and rebaited traps.
Caught only a skunk,
a small one not very fat.
Took pictures & movies
as he went free.

A few badgers, fox
and coyote traps around
traps. Tried live
chickens in cage for bait.

Have tried many scent
and food baits with no
results.

Have not tried limberges
cheese nor eggs yet.

Fallon

Dec. 10, 37

Vernon Mills caught
a coyote and a big bobcat
The coyote weighed 21 lbs,
the cat, 22.

Photographed cat

Rained a little in
night and morning,
warm.

Fallon, Nev. Nov. 6 to Dec. 14, 37

Birds

V.B.

Loon, A few seen

Eared grebe, Common

Pied billed grebe, a few

Western grebe, "

White pelican, a few, breed at Pyramid

Farallone Cormorant, a few seen

Great Blue heron, Com. to Dec. 14

Black crowned night heron, breed

Amer. Bittern, one seen, a few

Least bittern, has been taken

White faced glossy ibis, one seen

Abundant in summer.

Whistling swan. Many seen

Canada goose, hundreds seen

Lesser " " one killed, com.

Lesser Snow Goose, 10000 estimated

Mallards, Many flocks

Gadwall, Large flocks, com.

Baldpate, many seen to Dec 14

Fallon Dec. 11, 1937

Set 5 badger traps
south of Lake Lahontan.

Rained hard in night
and part of forenoon

Rained 5 inches at

Donner, Rivers flooded

Snow all gone in Mts.

- Pintail, Large flocks
- Green winged teal, Common
- Blue winged teal, rare, none seen
- Cinnamon teal, a few, abn, breeds
- Shovellers, Common
- Wood ducks, A few
- Redheads, Common.
- Canvas back, A few flocks
- Lesser scaup, A few killed
- American Golden eye, A few, 1 ♂
- Bufflehead, A few
- Ruddy duck, a few
- Am. Merganser, Common
- Red breasted
- Hooded Merganser, a few
- Turkey buzzard, " "
- Western Goshawk, A few killed
- Sharp shinned hawk, Abundant
- Cooper's hawk, A few
- Western Red tail, Common
- Swainson's hawk, A few

- Am. Roughleg hawk, common
- Ferruginous R.L., A few
- Golden eagle, frequently seen
- Bald Eagle, A few reported
- Marshhawk, common
- Prairie falcon, common, 6 in 1 day
- Pigeon hawk, One killed, 1 seen.
- Sparrow hawk, common
- Sierra Grouse, com. above Reno.
- Sagehen, com. east of Fallon
- Valley quail, numerous
- Mountain quail, in Mts. to west
- Sandhill Crane, large flocks
- Virginia Rail, reported breeding
- Sora Rail " "
- American Coot, Abn. breed, resident
- Killdeer, still common
- Wilson snipe, common
- Longbilled Curlew, Reported
- Spotted Sandpiper, com
- Solitary Sandpiper, "

- Avocet, abu. breeding
- Blacknecked Stilt, com, breed
- Wilson Phalarope, " "
- California Gull, Common
- Ringed billed Gull, less "
- Bonaparte Gull, several flocks,
- Western mourning dove, com.
- Barn Owl, a few
- Nevada Screech Owl, com.
- Western Horned Owl, "
- Pacific Horned Owl, 1 shot
- Burrowing Owl, common
- Longeared Owl, a few
- Short eared owl " "
- Kingfisher a few
- Red shafted flicker, abu.
- Horned larks, by thousands
- Magpie Common
- Western Crow, a few

Raven, a few
 Ind. cedar Bunting, 9
 Sage Thrasher, 1 Nov. 15
 Western Bluebird, Com.
 Am. Pipit, Com. in flocks
 Cedar Waxwing, A flock of 12, Dec. 2.
 Northern shrike, 4 seen
 Nevada shrike, common
 Western Meadowlark, com.
 Red Wing blackbird, abn.
 Brewer's blackbird, abn.
 House finch, Com.
 Sage sparrow, A few
 Junco, Com.
 Gambel's Sparrow, Abn.
 Song sparrow, Com.

Trapping Without Cruelty

Humane Review, July 1934

Sent to

Arthur Brisbane

Mrs. Bailey

Bernard "

Helen Green

Christy

Mattie

Anna

Zineida

Floody

Betty

Catherine Dutcher

Nancy

Muriel

Dr. Bebb

John Collier

Helen Galden

Chapman

Atkinson

Maryland Muskrat Marshes

Journal Man. Vol. 18, no 3,
Aug. P. 350-1937

✓ Anna

✓ Matie

✓ Henry

✓ Bernard

✓ Schmack

✓ Atkinson

✓ Muxia

✓ Zinaida

✓ Hodgey

✓ Hart

✓ Stephens

✓ Golden

✓ Collier

Holt

Bell

Bobb

✓ Betty

✓ Fisher

Arthur Cram, Deposit, NY

- ✓ Sterling Bunnell
- ✓ Oakie's
- Hoyes Lloyd
- Anderson
- Soaper
- ✓ Chit
- ✓ Harold
- ✓ Ray
- ✓ Seth Gordon
- ✓ Hunter Traders Trapper, Columbus O.
- ✓ Harding Magazine 'Fur Fish & Game'
 Columbus, O.
- ✓ Humane Review, Sanderson
- Nat. Trapper & Fur Trapper
- Circleville, Pa.
- ✓ Pennsylvania Game News
- ✓ Traders Digest
- ✓ Star News
- ✓ Manchester Enterprise
- ✓ Am. Traps Co.
- ✓ E. Raymond Hall, 10

Why a Naturalist

4

Anna

Faith

Zenaida, Mexia, Fladdie

Stephens

Grinnell

Storer

Dixon

Mollie Mills

2 Marie

Hurry

Helen

Chester

Bernard

Jim Dixon

Huey

Abbot

Atkinson

Willet

Lee Chambers

Skinner

Boys school
Sungria

McWhee

Colton

Jones

Hargrave

Musgrave

Helen

Dr. Taylor

Chet

Lislie

Star

Hardd

Jim Keasing

Betty, Fisher

Kathleen

Nancy

Corahill

Doutt

Tellur to Oakland

Dec. 14, 1937

A frosty morning but
warm, pleasant day,

Took train at Hazel,
11:20 AM.

Water high in Truckee R.
About a foot of snow on
Dormer Pass.

Lots of ducks in Soda Lake
Sloughs, hawks abundant,
Crows dark

Oakland 9 PM

Dec. 15
Oakland to Los Angeles
7:30 AM to 6 PM
Out to Malibu 8 PM.

Dec. 16

To Oceanside and
San Marcos 5 PM.

Dec. 17, 18, 19. San Marcos

Dec. 20, to Los Angeles & return
to San Marcos with traps
and baggage.

A Santa Anna blowing.

Dec. 20

San Marcos to Los Angeles
and return

A Santa Anna blowing

Dec. 21, Twin Oaks

Set six new and six old
coyote traps - very carefully

Dec. 23,

Caught 1 coyote, 1 bobcat
and a cottontail in the
new traps, nothing in
the old.

Took movies and stills of
all.

Killed coyote & cat with
Carbon monoxide gas at
rear of car. Both dead in
less than 4 minutes but
left in 5 minutes to make
sure. No struggle or
sound from either.

Twinn Oaks Dec. 23.

Rained hard in night
got nothing in traps
tho a coyote broke one of
the old hard stiff chains
and escaped and another
pulled up anchor in new
trap and escaped.

Another got out of old
weak trap that I had been
using to catch my finger.

Skinned coyote and cut
for mounting.

Did not reset traps as
it rained by spells
all day.

A fine rain, about a half
inch has fallen and soaked
the ground well.

Twin Oaks Dec. 24, 1937

Caught nothing as the traps were all bedded in clay and mostly would not spring. Set them more carefully with cloth over pan to keep the water out. Used Limburger cheese, scrapel rabbit & grapes for bait, a little muskrat musk on some.

Dec. 25,

Caught one nice coyote and got good photos of it. Killed for specimen by a blow on the frontals with no little hatchet then stood on ribs until dead. No suffering.

Christmas dinner with Henry and Chester in our little house in Twin Oaks Valley.

Twin Oaks Dec. 24, 1937

Rained in night and most of day. Caught nothing.
Took up 2 farthest traps.

Twin Oaks Dec. 27

Caught another coyote
in gulch over hill.

Made a specimen of it -
This is the third in 6 days
The two pulled out of a weak
trap, one pulled up stake
and took trap with him
and one chewed the chain
in two.

Better than one a day
in 12 traps, not all
good.

Left San Marcos 8:55 AM.
on Bus to Los Angeles
and home - Dec. 28.

Left Los Angeles on
S.P. train for New Orleans
and Washington at 8:10 PM.

Warm cell pleasant
lots of flowers, green grass
and oranges.

Went down to Mates
until train time and
Leslie brought me back
to the depo in evening.

Enroute Dec. 29. 1937

Woke just before sunrise at Gila, Arizona (used to be Gila Bend) and watched the sun light up the peaks and creep down the slopes and canyons to the valley floor and make long shadows of the giant cactus, paloverde, creosote and other well spaced desert vegetation. A perfect clear, mild desert morning with soft rich colors and depth of light and shade. It has been a mild winter for the cottonwoods still hold their golden leaves and even the mesquites are still leafy.

From Wiley to across to
Demming there is an
unusually good stand
of dry grass and many
white faced cattle on it!
There have been recent
rains and water stands
in many pools & ditches.
The cacti and yuccas are
plump and green and even
the creosote bushes have a
prosperous look.

The sun sunk into the
yucca forest near Deming,
and purple lights crept up
to the ragged peaks to
the S E & N E.

A full day feast of deserts,
desert life, rich colors
El Paso after dark.

Langtry, Texas to Houston
Dec. 30, 1937

Daylight at Langtry,
thru across High Bridge of
Devils River to Del Rio
and then to San Antonio.

A rainy morning with
grassy green leaves growing.

Rained most of day.
More mosquitoes than 20 years ago
away east of Seguin!

Wheat fields green, lots of grass.
Warm and wet

New Orleans to

Dec. 31, 1937

Foggy & rainy as we crossed
the new bridge over the
Mississippi but soon
cleared up and gave us a
beautiful day in New Orleans.

Went out to Audubon Park
and saw all of the zoo,
mostly Africans but some
good big alligators and
numerous native gray squirrels
all over the park.

These squirrels are very
small and dark with no
white on bellies, very
fuzzy fur, short ears
and short tails.

Left New Orleans 1 PM
for Washington via Joplinville
and Annapolis on
Illinois Central Ry.

through wonderful swamp
lake and bayou country,
along edge of Lake Ponchartraine
across Bayou La Bouché,
through great Cypress swamps
swamps, extensive marshes
few settlements, good for
and game country.

Good auto road along side,
Good boat channels
Wonderful camp of
fishing spots.

Great wetland marshes
with no encroachment
by gumboed pines on
house at Ponchartraine.

Ponchaleta - good town

Old field pine, farms, sandy land,
Hammond - good town & roads.

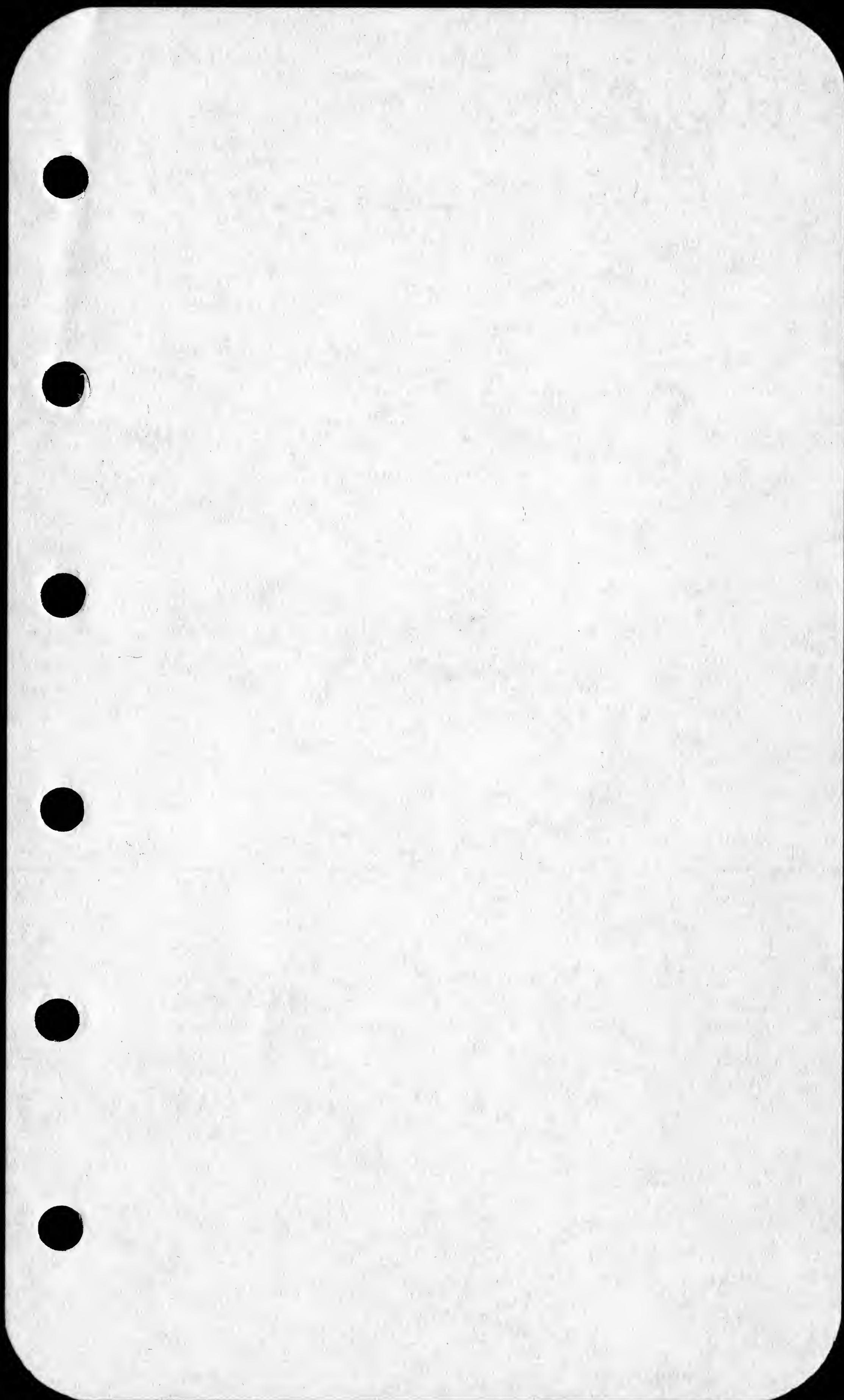
Sawmill, ties & timber.

Longleaf pine & Audubon

McComb, lumber

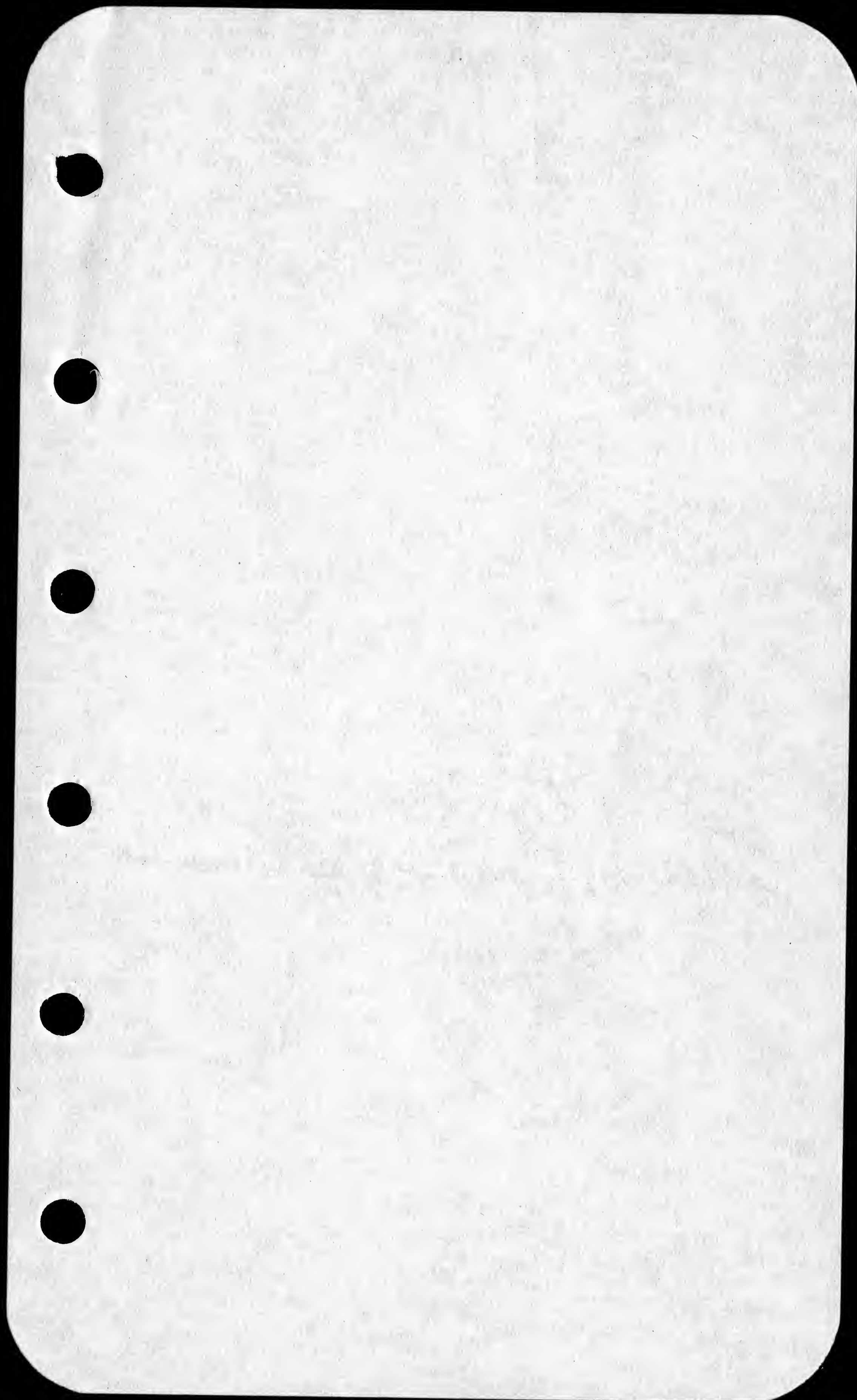
Lumber, cotton,

Jackson, farming, tobacco,



Augusta Stiles

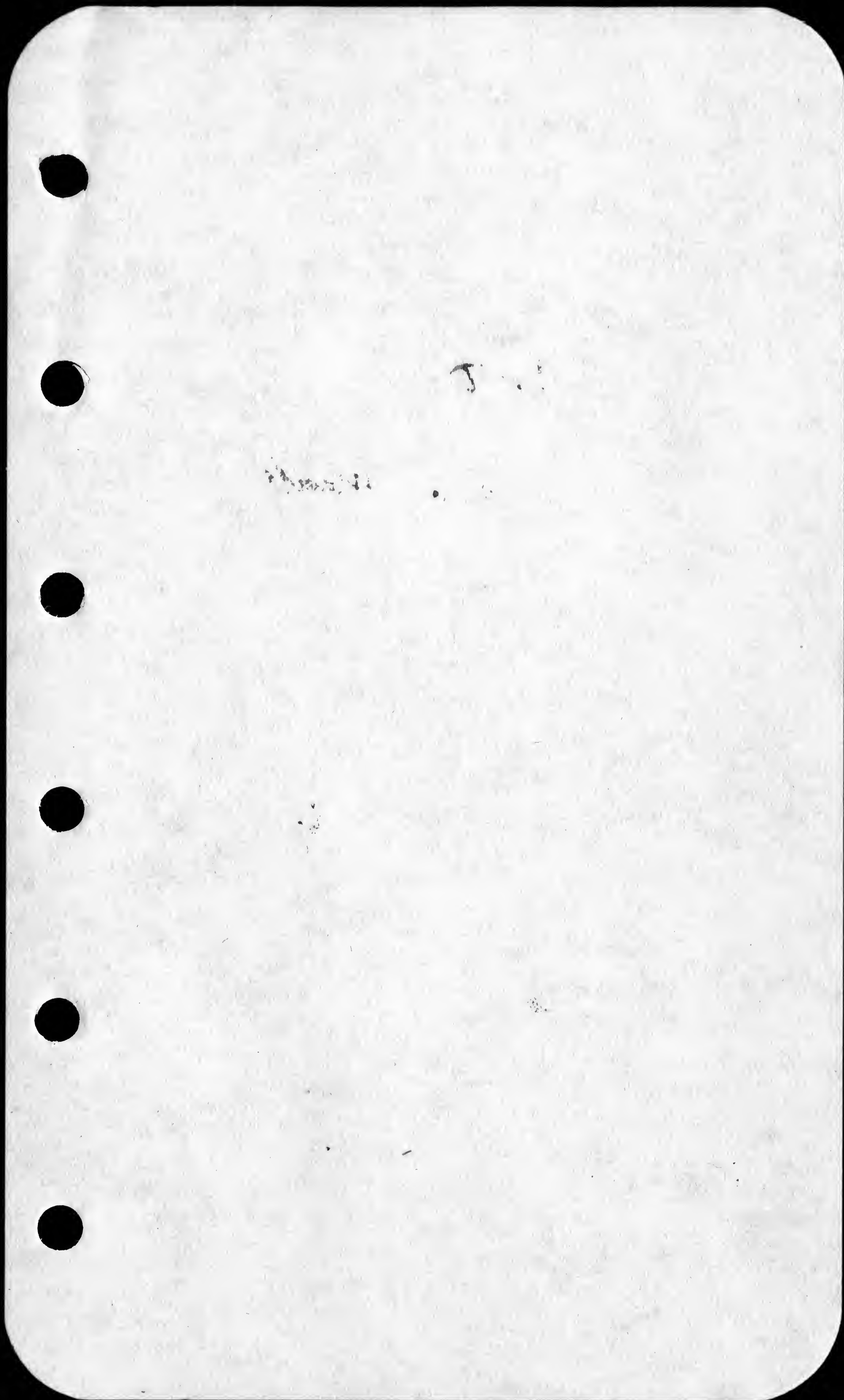
40 Church St., Santa Cruz, Calif.



game census to
Send, Ralph Keays
and Leslie and Vernon
ask one to Rob and one
to David Pyle at
Carrville.

Ralph Keays
8135 Evergreen Ave,
Vernon Keays
8945, San Antonio Ave.

Send Ray Alcorn skull
Chart for bones & measurements
Grand Canyon birds to
Miss Cleghorn



Port

● Ranger Hamilton
Bright Angel Camp, Ariz.

● Ranger Dwight Smiley
Bright Angel Camp

● William Crosby, Jack Lata,
Ed Lata, Karob

● Jim Young, Karob
lion trapper.

Expenses

April 20. Ticket to Grand Canyon
San Francisco and return 98.20

Baggage .75

negatives & films 14.90

Trunks

40.00

Porter

.25

Chicago, April 22

Porters

.50

Breakfast

.40

Pillow .15

Supper .25

.40

Supper on train

1.38

April 24 to Baker

Breakfast .26, lunch 20, - .46

Dinner

1.00

April 25

meals

2.45

26

Room

1.50

Breakfast

.50

Quilt

3.90

May 23

Bus to Flagstaff

3.10

Ry. to Williams

.60

Religious

.74

meals 97.50

1.47

May 24 Meals .35, 1.00, 1.35

May 25 Grub 1.50

" 27. Occasional to LA. 1.50

" Thrupp teeth 15.00

May 28, Breakfast .35

Porters .62,

Lodging .55

May 30, Dinner for 3 - 2.45 2.15
Gasoline 2.45

May 2 breakfast .35, lunch .55, 5.21, 1.11
Porters .20, 1.20

May 3, Thurs. .50, .90, .20 1.60
Breakfast .45, A. 40, 5.65 1.50

Tips .40, } Buxton to K.C. 1.25

May 4 }
June 5 Room at St. Louis .40

Meal .80, 40, .85 2.05

June 5 Tips .50,
" .25

Meal .40
Ry to Lexington 1.40

June 6 Shirt 1, Ties 1.00, Socks .50,

Shampoo, 20

2.80

Pressing .75, meals 1.60 = 2.35

June 7 & 8,

Taxi .75, buses 40

1.45

Ry. to Cincinnati

1.40

Posters .70

June 9 Breakfast .75

Pillau .15